

Heated Debates Face Hill

Clashes Seen On A-Defense, Poverty Bill

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Congress will plunge into controversy this week, with the antipoverty program headed for trouble in the House and hearings on the Nation's nuclear defenses almost certain to spill over into debate in the Senate.

The calendar standing in the way of adjournment promises repeated collisions with the Johnson Administration.

Rep. Bob Wilson (R-Calif.), chairman of the Republican Congressional Campaign Committee, predicted yesterday that about half of the bills on the President's "must" list will all by the wayside in the drive to go home.

Possible Casualties

Among the casualties, Wilson suggested on WTTG-TV's "Opinion: Washington," will be truth-in-lending, the 10 percent income surtax, gun controls, highway beautification, political campaign financing, safeguards against flammable fabrics, elementary and secondary education, civil rights and wiretapping legislation.

The Administration's proposal for a \$2 billion extension of the war on poverty will come up in the House today for a rough week of debate.

The bill, as rewritten by the House Education and Labor Committee, gives city mayors more control over the program. Republicans want to dismember the Office of Economic Opportunity and distribute most of its programs to other agencies.

The issue of the Government's proposed "thin" anti-ballistic-missile system—complicated by Russia's apparent development of an orbital space missile—will come up for hearings today before a subcommittee of the Joint Atomic Energy Committee.

'Wishful Thinking'

Sen. Henry M. Jackson (D-Wash.), who will preside over the hearings, said yesterday the orbital bomb shows that hope of limiting the nuclear arms race with the Soviets is just "wishful thinking."

Although Secretary of Defense Robert S. McNamara said a sub-orbital flight path for what he called the FOBS (Fractional Orbital Bombardment System) would apparently exempt it from the treaty reserving space for peaceful uses, Jackson said his Subcommittee would explore its status under the treaty in detail.

McNamara also caught Republican flak for saying he was "not concerned" by the bomb because American deterrent power would survive it.

On the domestic front the Social Security bill has been tentatively revamped by the Senate Finance Committee to expand benefits and raise payroll taxes by as much

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as \$150 for the highest wage earners next year.

Sen. Vance Hartke (D-Ind.) has vowed an all-out floor fight against the increase, which is far more than needed to cover the benefits. It would yield some \$5 billion more in taxes than the Administration has proposed.

Hartke calls it a "backdoor" method of getting a general tax increase. It is expected to come up for final Finance

Committee approval Wednesday.

Meanwhile, House-Senate conferees will meet again this week in an effort to break the deadlock over a House-passed "continuing appropriations" bill ordering heavy cuts in Federal spending. No compromise appears imminent.

The crime issue also appears to be picking up steam.

The House Republican Task Force on Crime said yesterday that Congress should not ad-

journ without enacting a Senate-passed measure to replace U. S. Commissioners with newly appointed Federal magistrates who would have higher qualifications and expanded duties.

Calling rising crime rates "a disgrace," the Task Force, headed by Rep. Richard H. Poff (R-Va.), said the bill would free Federal judges from time-consuming chores and help speed up the administration of "swift, sure justice."

Other issues that promise to

drag the session well into December are foreign aid, the final appropriations bills, and the protectionist bandwagon rolling in the Senate.

President Johnson has threatened to veto the import restrictions proposed on behalf of dozens of American industries, but Senate Minority Leader Everett M. Dirksen (R-Ill.) has indicated that an attempt would be made to override a presidential veto on at least some of the import quotas in the hopper.